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**Board of Registration in Pharmacy  
Drug Control Program  
Immunization Program**

**Policy 2020-12: Vaccine Administration by Qualified Pharmacy Technicians**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health ("DPH or the Department"), through the Board of Registration in Pharmacy, Drug Control Program, and Immunization Program is making vaccines more accessible by authorizing administration by qualified pharmacy technicians. This policy sets forth the requirements for qualified pharmacy technicians to administer vaccinations and is intended to align with the Secretary of Health and Human Services' Declaration under the PREP Act.

Qualified pharmacy technicians may vaccinate persons aged 3 through 18 years according to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices ("ACIP") standard immunization schedule, administer influenza vaccinations for persons aged 3 years and older, and any others as authorized by the PREP Act.

**Please note carefully, certain allowances and requirements of this policy will terminate when the emergency declaration under the PREP Act terminates. After termination, policy details will be reevaluated.**

Qualified pharmacy technicians may administer vaccines provided the following requirements have been satisfied:

- Qualified pharmacy technicians must be certified by a Board-approved national certifying body (i.e., ExCPT or PTCB) or have worked at least 500 hours after being licensed as a pharmacy technician ("PT").
- Qualified pharmacy technicians must be licensed by the Board.
- Qualified pharmacy technicians must have the approval of a Massachusetts licensed pharmacist on duty and are under the direct, on-site supervision of that pharmacist.
- After the pharmacist counsels the patient and selects the vaccine, a qualified pharmacy technician may only conduct the physical act of preparing and

administering the vaccine and providing emergency medication to manage a vaccine reaction in accordance with a standing order.

- Except for the training program requirements below, qualified pharmacy technicians must comply with all other requirements listed in [Policy 2020-11: Vaccine Administration](#) and 105 CMR 700.004(B)(6).
- Training:
  1. Qualified pharmacy technicians must successfully complete an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (“ACPE”) accredited 6-hour training program to include assessment exam(s) and the following minimum requirements:
    - at least 2 hours of live training to include hands-on assessment of intramuscular and subcutaneous injection techniques appropriate for the patient’s age; and
    - recognition and management of vaccine reactions; and
  2. At least 2 additional hours of documented on-the-job training with an experienced certified immunizer and completion of a [Skills Checklist for Vaccine Administration](#) (or similar).

Please direct any questions to: [Pharmacy.Admin@mass.gov](mailto:Pharmacy.Admin@mass.gov)